

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA-02) today announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has approved a \$100,000 grant for the Golden Triangle Resource Conservation and Development Area to establish lending programs for household water wells in rural Southwest Georgia. The grant will be funded through the USDA's Household Water Well System Grant Program.

“This program provides financial assistance to rural residents who need to drill water wells,” Bishop said. “Because many rural residents do not live in areas where a centralized water system is feasible, this program helps meet a basic human need – access to clean, safe drinking water.”

Golden Triangle Resource Conservation and Development Area will use the grant to make loans for 13 - 22 individual households in 12 Southwest Georgia counties: Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Terrell and Randolph. The loans will be used to construct or upgrade a household water well system for an existing home.

For more information about USDA's Rural Development Water and Environmental Programs, please visit <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water>.